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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our loving Heavenly Father, the center of our joy, thank You for Your gracious care for each of us. Help our lawmakers live today with a sense of accountability to You, striving to please You more than others. Awaken them to the fact that You see all they do and hear all they say. May they walk from weakness to strength, growing in ethical fitness day by day in order to fulfill Your purposes for their lives. Lord, give them a special measure of inner peace so that they may be peacemakers during times of tension and conflict.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, March 17, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator

from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to H.R. 2847, the HIRE Act. There will be 10 minutes for debate, equally divided and controlled between Senators GREGG and SCHUMER or their designees. We expect Senator GREGG to make a budget point of order with respect to the bill.

At approximately 9:45, the Senate will proceed to a series of two rollcall votes: the motion to waive the Gregg budget point of order and the motion to concur in the House amendments to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2847.

Upon disposition of the HIRE Act, the Senate will resume consideration of FAA reauthorization. The Senate will recess from 12:30 until 2 p.m. for a special Democratic caucus.

When the Senate reconvenes at 2 p.m., there will be a live quorum. Senators are requested to come to the floor at that time. When a quorum is present, the Senate will receive the House managers for the purpose of presenting and exhibiting articles of impeachment against G. Thomas Porteous, judge of the U.S. Eastern District of Louisiana. Once the House managers are received, Senators will be sworn. Then Senators will be re-

quired to sign the Secretary's oath book.

In addition, rollcall votes in relation to FAA are expected throughout the day.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 2847, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany H.R. 2847, an act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, and Justice and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with amendments.

Pending:

Durbin motion to concur in the amendments of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Durbin amendment No. 3498 (to the motion to concur in the amendments of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate), of a perfecting nature.

Durbin amendment No. 3499 (to amendment No. 3498), of a perfecting nature.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is considered expired and the motion to concur with an amendment is withdrawn.

There will be 10 minutes of debate, equally divided between the Senator from New Hampshire, Mr. GREGG, and the Senator from New York, Mr. SCHUMER, or their designees.

Who yields time?

The Senator from New York.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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